

## DINO TURTLE LIVES ON FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS TO ENJOY

### FORTY-YEAR-OLD CEMENT CREATURE RECEIVES NEW HOME

**T**HIS RARE, ONE-OF-A-KIND prehistoric animal, affectionately named “Dino Turtle,” first appeared in Bloomington in 1968 with the completion of Reservoir Park on 82nd Street and Penn Avenue.

Dino Turtle arrived around the same time as the recreational equipment and sundial that were located in the park at the top of two 10-million-gallon underground water tanks. The play equipment and sundial were removed for security reasons during the past few years and Dino Turtle was the last item to leave the park. The 1500-pound turtle was recently relocated to the

southeastern shore of Overlook Pond, near 4600 Overlook Drive.

Residents like John Kylo, who grew up playing at Reservoir Park, can still enjoy seeing the creature near the water, a more appropriate setting for a half-dinosaur, half-turtle.

Kylo said that his son also enjoys Dino Turtle. *See photo right.*

“When we saw that Dino Turtle was being moved, my son worried that he might not survive. We were very happy to learn that he had just been relocated,” Kylo said. “Now we can see him whenever we want.”



## THE RESULTS ARE IN!

### RESIDENTS AND CRITICS GIVE *BRIEFING* HIGH MARKS

**B**LOOMINGTON RESIDENTS RECEIVE their City news and information from the *Briefing*, according a recent reader survey. More than 270 people responded to the survey that was offered in print and online in April and May.

When asked about sources of information, 92 percent of respondents said the *Briefing* was their most common source for City news, followed by the *Bloomington Sun-Current*, *Minneapolis Star Tribune* and the City of Bloomington’s website.

“I really enjoy the [*Briefing*]. I read it cover-to-cover each time it comes,” commented one resident. “I like reading about how the City is doing financially and what opportunities are out there for me to enjoy.”

The *Briefing* is also beneficial to Bloomington residents. More than 87 percent of survey respondents said the newsletter was “very valuable” or “valuable” as a communications tool. “This is great communication to city residents and I appreciate all that it contains,” commented one survey respondent. “I clip out events for the family and it’s a good summary of what’s going on in the city.”

When asked about the newsletter’s features, 99 percent of respondents said “Upcoming events” was among the features they liked most, followed by “Development updates,” “Recycling and environmental news” and “Parks, recreation and arts.” Residents also cited history spotlights as favorite features.

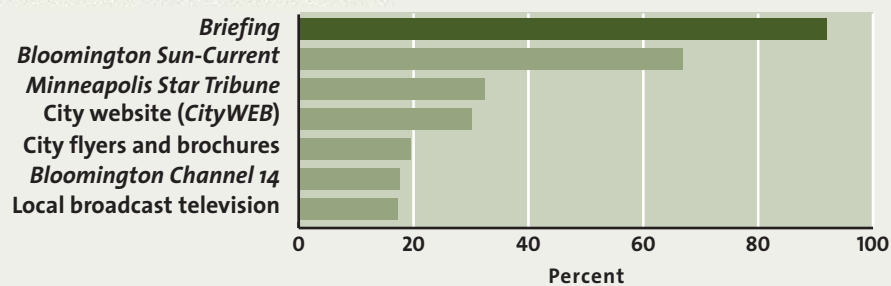
Of those who responded to the survey, 89 percent said the present frequency (six times per year) and size (8 - 12 pages) were preferred.

Many survey respondents had suggestions for features they would like to see added, including neighborhood spotlights, volunteer opportunities and more information for seniors. Communications staff will consider all of the comments and suggestions and use the feedback to make improvements to the *Briefing*.

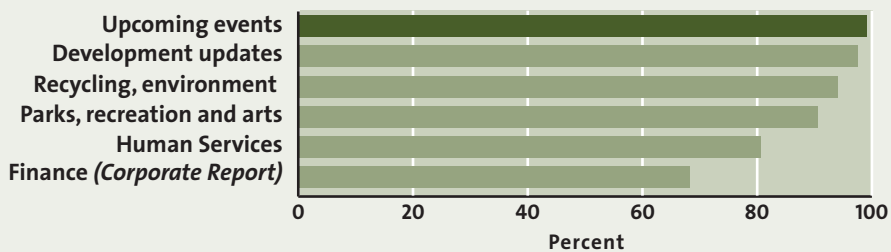
For more information, call Communications Administrator Janine Hill at 952-563-8819.

*Thank you for your feedback!*

#### SOURCE OF CITY INFORMATION



#### MOST POPULAR FEATURES



*Respondents were allowed to select more than one answer, therefore totals exceed 100 percent.*

## INSIDE

### AUGUST 2009

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## LET’S RENDEZVOUS

### A FESTIVAL OF LIVING HISTORY IN BLOOMINGTON

**R**IVER RENDEZVOUS is a unique opportunity to see our rich past come alive. The event will be held at Pond-Dakota Mission Park, 401 East 104th Street, on **Saturday, September 26, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.** This year’s festivities feature music, dance and 15 new demonstrator stations where you can learn about early trades and crafts, Native American history, the fur trade and pioneer life.




For more information, call Parks and Recreation or visit [www.ci.bloomington.mn.us](http://www.ci.bloomington.mn.us), keyword: Rendezvous.



## BLOOMINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

### HISTORY LESSONS AT OLD TOWN HALL

**I**F YOU LIKE HISTORY, you won’t want to miss these upcoming Bloomington Historical Society events:

-  **The Civil War**  
August 16, 2 p.m.
-  **Henry David Thoreau – His Journey to Minnesota**  
September 13, 2 p.m.
-  **Minnesota Barns**  
September 27, 2 p.m.

All Historical Society programs take place at Old Town Hall, 10200 Penn Avenue South. For more information, call the Bloomington Historical Society at 952-881-4327.

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON *BRIEFING*, AUGUST 2009



## AWARD WINNING CITY WINS BIG IN STATEWIDE COMPETITION

**T**HE CITY WAS a winner at this year’s Minnesota

Association of Government Communicator’s Northern Lights Awards Contest. Bloomington was presented with an award for all six categories entered, including four Awards of Excellence for the special event, *Bloomington Sesquicentennial Celebration 1858 - 2008*; annual report, *Corporate Report to the Community 2008*; website, *CityWEB* for its Sesquicentennial redesign and internal newsletter, *Insider*. The *Briefing* received an Award of Merit, as did *Bloomington: Where the Water Touches the Bluffs*, a Sesquicentennial edition video.

The City was also nominated for “Best of Show” awards for both the *Sesquicentennial Celebration* and the *Corporate Report to the Community*.

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The *Briefing*, published bimonthly by the City of Bloomington, is mailed to our residents and businesses. Direct comments and requests for Braille, larger print or computer disk to Communications Administrator Janine Hill, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington MN 55431-3027; PH 952-563-8819; TTY 952-563-8740; FAX 952-563-8715; E-MAIL [jhill@ci.bloomington.mn.us](mailto:jhill@ci.bloomington.mn.us).  
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*Elected officials presented for informational purposes.*

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*The City of Bloomington complies with all applicable provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its services, programs, or activities. Upon request, accommodation will be provided to allow individuals with disabilities to participate in all City of Bloomington services, programs, and activities. The City has designated coordinators to facilitate compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), and to coordinate compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as mandated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations. For more information, contact the Human Services Division, City of Bloomington, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington, MN 55431-3027; 952-563-8733 (Voice); 952-563-8740 (TTY).*

*Upon request, this information can be available in Braille, large print, audio tape and/or electronic format.*

WEATHERING THE STORM  
HOPE FOR THE BEST, PLAN FOR WHAT MAY COME

By Mayor Gene Winstead

**F**ORECLOSURES, LAYOFFS and bankrupt corporations have dominated the headlines for more than a year. Now a new headline, “government unallotments,” is causing even more headaches for struggling communities. Bloomington residents and businesses are no doubt feeling the effects of the current economy. The City recognizes this reality and that’s why its focus will continue to be on the people in the community.

*The City’s objective is to face the downturn head-on and ultimately come out stronger than we were before.*

December and June unallotments by the Governor have put many cities in panic mode – and with good reason. On a national level:

- Stocks lost 55 percent of their value between October 2007 and March 2009.
- Home prices declined precipitously.
- Commercial/industrial values, which are a significant portion of many cities’ tax base, are declining.
- Unemployment rates have continued to rise.
- The economic stimulus has driven interest rates down, but federal borrowing has driven interest rates up, which may throttle back a recovery.

The good news is, thanks to years of careful financial planning, the City is prepared for a downturn of normal

length. Anticipating the state’s financial situation, we have not counted on the Market Value Homestead Credit for funding, which means that the Governor’s unallotments will not directly affect Bloomington. It is possible, however, that these cuts will affect Hennepin County and eventually trickle down to Bloomington.

The City’s financial strength, conservative spending pattern and long-term strategy of staffing services only at levels it can carry through a normal downturn are some of the reasons Bloomington maintains the highest bond ratings from Standard and Poor’s, Moody’s, and Fitch credit rating agencies. Police, Fire, Public Works, Parks and Recreation, and other areas will all remain at current service levels, which is vital, considering that we typically rely on essential City services more during difficult times.

Prepared for the fact that this might not be an “average” downturn, the City is also taking steps to develop a more robust strategy to assess risks.

The City will accomplish this through developing a robust management plan to deal with the possibility of a much more trying economic situation. As we plan for the long term, we will be guided by our goal to grow and operate in a sustainable manner that meets the needs of today without reducing the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.



WHAT’S DEVELOPING?  
TWO NEW RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS OPENING SOON

**W**HETHER IT’S an assisted living environment or a 55-and-older community, Bloomington developers are responding to a demand for more accessible, senior-friendly housing. Two residential developments, 9 Mile Catered Living and Penelope apartments, are scheduled to open in early 2010.

Both buildings and site plans conform to the *City Code’s* Senior Citizen Housing Performance Standards.

For more information, call Planner Londell Pease at 952-563-8926 or visit [www.ci.bloomington.mn.us](http://www.ci.bloomington.mn.us), keywords: Development map.

The Village on  
9 Mile Creek

Construction is currently underway for 9 Mile Catered Living at 2350 West Old Shakopee Road on the west side of the Village on 9 Mile Creek.

The catered living facility will have 96 apartments, including 39 assisted living units, 42 independent units and 15 memory care units. The facility will feature a community room, full-service kitchen and dining services for all residents. It will look similar to the neighboring condo building.

Parking is provided in a 78-space underground parking garage and 51-space parking lot.



Penelope Apartments

The second phase of Penelope Apartments at 10601 Beard Avenue will include three floors of 35 senior apartment homes, a second phase addition to the 41 existing senior apartments in a building on the south side of Old Shakopee Road. Age and income restrictions apply.





## MAINTAINING NEIGHBORHOODS INSPECTION PROGRAM PRESERVES HOME VALUES



**M**AINAINING DESIRABLE neighborhoods is important. It protects property values, creates a sense of community and secures future economic vitality. An emphasis on maintenance is especially important during an economic downturn when foreclosures are increasing.

The City recognizes that during difficult economic times it may not be easy for property owners to maintain their homes, but it is vital for our neighborhoods that properties do not fall into disrepair. The nuisance program is one way the City helps to maintain desirable neighborhoods. Systematic inspections by Bloomington Environmental Health employees are the primary way violations are discovered, but resident complaints are an important backup mechanism. Environmental Health investigates nearly 200 resident complaints each month, responding to reports of code violations such as tall grass or weeds, abandoned vehicles,

items stored in yards, garbage and deteriorated home exteriors. Environmental Health started its citywide inspections for tall grass and weeds in May, issuing nearly 430 orders for correction to residential and commercial properties. Inspectors were also looking for brush piles and items left behind from the Curbside Cleanup. In addition, inspectors evaluate properties that have had a foreclosure sale in the last 12 months or are known to be vacant.

More than 95 percent of all residential violations are corrected by the property owner as soon as they receive a verbal or written notice. Inspectors take time to explain the City’s code requirements and the reasons behind them. This results in a high percentage of voluntary compliance and a small percentage of violations that require further enforcement.

The City relies on residents to help maintain desirable neighborhoods. Talk

to your neighbor or block captain if you see an issue in your neighborhood. Helping your neighbor recognize the problem and take corrective action before it gets out of hand is a more effective way to build community relationships than by calling in a complaint.

When backyard diplomacy does not work, call or e-mail Environmental Health at 952-563-8934 or envhealth@ci.bloomington.mn.us. Give the inspector time to observe the violation and work with the property owner to resolve the issue. Even though inspectors are able to investigate most complaints within two days of your call, it may take much longer for the property owner to correct the violation. The City must allow property owners a reasonable amount of time to correct the violation before taking corrective action.

For more information, visit [www.ci.bloomington.mn.us](http://www.ci.bloomington.mn.us), keywords: Environmental Health.

## CLEARING THE CONGESTION FINDING NEW WAYS TO WORK

**T**RAFFIC BACKUPS, congested highways, pollution, crashes, construction – sound like your typical morning commute? If it does, efforts are underway to encourage commuting alternatives. The City, in conjunction with 494 Commuter Services, is developing a Travel Demand Management (TDM) program and ordinance aimed at reducing single-occupant vehicle travel during peak commute times. The program aims to increase the efficiency of Bloomington’s transportation system through the promotion and facilitation of alternative modes of travel such as ridesharing, vanpooling, transit, bicycling and walking.

TDM also promotes alternative work schedules and telecommuting, which can shift and reduce demand on Bloomington’s transportation system during peak traffic hours. The focus of the TDM program will be on development that generates significant traffic during weekday morning and afternoon commutes. Developers of such projects (typically offices) will be required to prepare TDM plans that identify efforts they will make to encourage employees to use alternative modes of travel to get to work.

For more information, call City Planner Julie Farnham at 952-563-4739.

## BUCKLE UP! NEW SEAT BELT LAW IN EFFECT

**M**INNESOTA recently became the 29th state to make its seat belt law a primary offense. This means that a police officer may stop and ticket a driver or passenger for no other reason than for not wearing their seat belt. Why is this new law so important? Each year in Minnesota, more than 200 unbelted motorists are killed and another 400 unbelted motorists suffer life-altering injuries.

According to the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, although 87 percent of Minnesotans buckle up while in their cars, half of all motorist traffic deaths involve unbuckled drivers.

This new law may only target the 13 percent of motorists who do not wear seat belts, but everyone is affected when friends or family members are killed or injured in a crash. Encourage everyone in your life to always wear their seat belts.

For more information, contact the Bloomington Police Department at 952-563-4900.



## ROAD CONSTRUCTION IMPROVEMENTS MEAN SAFER ROADWAYS

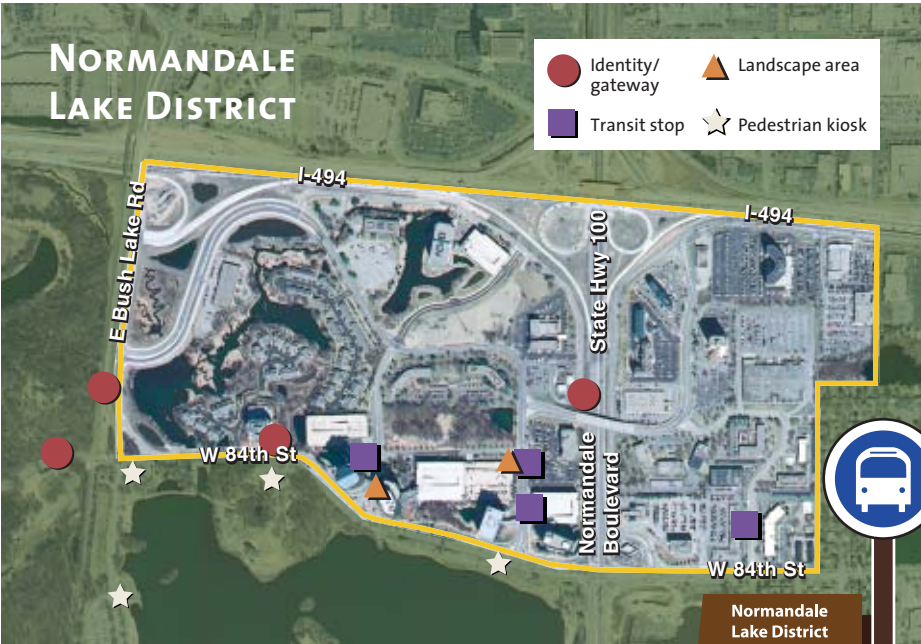
**T**HE CURRENT CONSTRUCTION projects on 90th Street and Nicollet Avenue, West 84th Street and the 106th Street bridge, will be completed by the end of August 2009. However, pavement reconstruction, as part of the City’s Pavement Management Plan, is scheduled to occur on West 84th Street and the intersection of 90th Street and Nicollet Avenue in the fall. Landscape restoration to these areas, if not also completed in the fall, will be finished in the spring.

The City appreciates residents’ patience and willingness to use alternative routes as these important infrastructure safety improvements are made.

For more information on these and other projects, visit [www.ci.bloomington.mn.us](http://www.ci.bloomington.mn.us), keywords: road construction, or call Engineering at 952-563-4870.

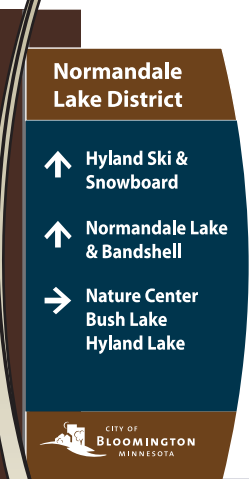
Sign up for *E-Subscribe* bulletins to receive up-to-date information on road closures via e-mail at [www.ci.bloomington.mn.us](http://www.ci.bloomington.mn.us).

## TRANSPORTATION UPDATE



## DESTINATION: NORMANDALE LAKE NEW SIGNS WILL HELP VISITORS NAVIGATE

**O**NE OF THE ENHANCEMENTS to the Normandale Lake District will be a new sign system. District entrance signs, pedestrian information kiosks and transit stop signs will be installed this fall.



The Normandale Lake District includes the area bounded by West 84th Street on the south, Stanley Road on the east, I-494 on the north and East Bush Lake Road on the west. The district is a highly attractive employment center. The new signs will also help people recognize the district as a distinctive neighborhood, by unifying the streetscape to enhance the district’s character.

The improvements will be funded by special assessments paid by office owners and tax abatements. For more information, call Development Coordinator Jennifer Desrude at 952-563-4862.

New district entrance signs, pedestrian information kiosks and transit stop signs will help visitors better navigate the area and find their destinations.





## BIKEABILITY FIND YOUR OWN BIKE ROUTE

**E**VER WONDER HOW long it would take you to bike to work or another destination and what route you would use? Learn the quickest and easiest routes by visiting the website [www.cyclopath.org](http://www.cyclopath.org) and entering your starting point and destination. Cyclopath will calculate a route for you with turn-by-turn instructions, similar to the way Mapquest works for auto trips. The website also gives users the option of selecting the degree to which a route should favor “minimum distance” versus “bikeability.”



## OVERPOWER PESTS WITHOUT POISON AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION...

**P**REVENTING PESTS from entering and setting up camp in your residence in the first place is the best control method. Follow these tips for pest-proofing your home:

- Clean up food and beverage spills immediately.
- Keep food and garbage in tightly closed containers.
- Repair torn screens and caulk all cracks and crevices where pests may enter.
- Use mechanical traps or low-toxicity products as a last resort.
- If possible, avoid using sprays containing DEET and other pesticides.

For safer pest control options, visit [www.beyondpesticides.org](http://www.beyondpesticides.org).

**Earth Action Heroes protect the earth. Whether it’s saving energy or guarding Bloomington’s precious natural resources, these individuals are making a difference. Here are your neighbors in action...**

## EARTH ACTION HEROES DWAN’S “GREEN” KEEPERS

**F**OR SEVERAL YEARS, Bloomington’s Dwan Golf Course has been taking steps to become more environmentally friendly by installing nesting houses for birds, cultivating native prairie grasses, growing native plants and employing water conservation techniques. Because of these efforts, Dwan was recently awarded a certificate of achievement in environmental planning from the prestigious Audubon International. The certification is the result of countless hours of documentation and planning by Dwan staff members, including Dwan Golf Course Superintendent Mike Hoffman and Dwan Manager Rick Sitek.

The certification means Dwan has now officially joined the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program (ACSP).

The ACSP for golf courses provides advisory service to help existing golf courses develop effective conservation and wildlife enhancement programs.



Staff Ecologist for Audubon International Jim Sluiter said in a press release that it is important to remember that a golf course is used not just by golfers, but is habitat for a variety of wildlife species.

“We welcome Dwan Golf Course’s commitment to the environment and to managing the golf course with wildlife in mind,” Sluiter said.

Audubon International has a checklist of projects that golf courses may undertake to receive environmental certification in different areas, including water quality management, water conservation, chemical use reduction and outreach and education.

According to Sitek, now that Dwan is certified in environmental planning, staff will begin to work to obtain certification in additional categories of wildlife and habitat management and water conservation.

Sitek said he believes environmental planning is “the right thing to do” and that the efforts will only add to Dwan’s beauty.

“Most players don’t get the opportunity to see the course early in the morning,” Sitek said. “When the sun is just coming up and there’s dew on the newly mown fairways, it’s really quite beautiful.”

Dwan Golf Course Superintendent Mike Hoffman, who put together the original plan to submit to Audubon International, said he is proud of Dwan’s environmental stewardship.

“We’ve always strived to be environmentally friendly,” Hoffman said. “Audubon certification validates our efforts.”



*“We decided about seven years ago to really enhance and protect the wildlife habitat on the course by installing nesting houses for birds and growing prairie grass,” said Dwan Manager Rick Sitek. “This is something we’ve been working hard at for a long time.”*

## WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I HAVE ASH TREES?

If your ash tree appears healthy, you may not need to take any action now. Healthy ash trees should not be cut down! If you are concerned, consider consulting an arborist. If an arborist confirms your tree has Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), you may need to treat or remove the tree. Any company removing a tree should provide proof of insurance. Trust experienced professionals to help you choose the right replacement trees. If you have questions or want to report a suspected find of EAB, call the Minnesota Department of Agriculture Arrest Pest hotline at 651-201-6644, or visit [www.mda.state.mn.us](http://www.mda.state.mn.us), keywords: Emerald Ash Borer.



## ASH TREES AT RISK EMERALD ASH BORER IN MINNESOTA

**E**MERALD ASH BORER (EAB), the small, iridescent green beetle that attacks and kills ash trees, has been discovered in St. Paul. As a result, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) has issued a quarantine prohibiting the movement of hardwood firewood, ash trees, ash tree limbs or branches of ash trees, ash lumber with bark attached and uncomposted ash chips out of Hennepin and Ramsey counties.

Although the EAB has not yet been found in Bloomington, the City is taking direction from the MDA and is in the process of creating a plan to deal with the pest’s likely arrival.

Bloomington tree inspectors licensed by the MDA will search for EAB in their annual tree inspections. Information from these inspections will help determine the response strategy implemented by state and local officials. The Bloomington City Council has already passed an ordinance prohibiting the planting of ash trees.

In the meantime, Assistant Maintenance Superintendent Paul Edwardson recommends residents take extra care of the trees they are trying to retain. Pesticides are not necessary. In fact, University of Minnesota experts advise against the use of insecticide treatments without a confirmed infestation.

For more information, visit [www.ci.bloomington.mn.us](http://www.ci.bloomington.mn.us), keywords: EAB, or contact Paul Edwardson at 952-563-8762.





## IN THE INTEREST OF SAFETY



### DON'T GET BURNED TAKE FIRE SAFETY SERIOUSLY

**A** RECREATIONAL FIRE is an outdoor fire used for cooking, warming or ceremonial purposes. When you light a recreational fire in your yard, remember your neighbors.

The intent of the Recreational Fire Code is to prevent fire hazards for your safety, property and adjacent properties. Recreational fires are permitted in accordance with the following conditions:

- Only use clean, dry wood.
- Firewood stacks cannot exceed three feet in diameter by two feet high.
- Fires must be located at least 25 feet away from combustible structures or materials.
- Extinguishing equipment must be readily available.
- No fires from 12 a.m. to 7 a.m.
- A recreational fire must be immediately extinguished if an official determines it is creating a fire safety hazard.

For more information, call Fire Marshal Gene Dugal at 952-563-8967.

### A FAMILY TRADITION THREE GENERATIONS FIGHT FIRE

Image courtesy of Lisa Voigt.

**Y**OU COULD SAY that fighting fires is in Kathy Meyer's blood. Not just because she's been doing it for 15 years, but because Meyer is a third generation Bloomington volunteer firefighter, following in the footsteps of her grandfather, father, uncle and currently serving alongside her husband, Deputy Chief of Engineering Curt Meyer. Meyer's grandfather

Clarence Hecht began the tradition when he served from 1949 - 1969.

According to Meyer, the one aspect of firefighting she struggles with the most is time management. As a full-time employee of a custom marketing firm in Edina and a mother, Meyer's time is precious.

On Christmas Eve in 2004 she was called to a dangerous house fire. "The landing on a staircase gave way as I passed over it," Meyer said. "Luckily, I was holding on to the hose line, which is a trained practice, so I didn't fall into the basement."

Meyer said that being a third generation firefighter has special meaning, but the most rewarding part of her job is when she's coming to someone's aid.

"When I can perform my necessary duties and at the same time save someone's pet or family photos or other cherished belonging, that's what feels really good," Meyer said.

Meyer is one of Bloomington's 135 all-volunteer firefighters who have been protecting our community since 1947.



Three generations of Hechts have served our city, including Clarence Hecht, his son Ken Hecht and granddaughter Kathy Meyer.



### PROTECT OTHERS AND SAVE LIVES IF DISASTER STRIKES JOIN THE COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

**T**HE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON IS forming a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) to increase its emergency response capabilities.

First responders may not meet the demand for emergency services fast enough following a large-scale, major disaster. CERT members are community volunteers who use their skills to sustain lives in a disaster until help arrives.

In addition to learning disaster preparedness, fire suppression and medical operations, CERT members learn about public health disasters, including preparation and response to infectious disease outbreaks and biological terrorist attacks.

The CERT program is a joint effort between Police, Fire, emergency medical services and Public Health. **Classes begin**

**in the fall.** There is no cost to attend, but space is limited.

For more information, call Lisa Brodsky at 952-563-4962, or e-mail [lbrodsky@ci.bloomington.mn.us](mailto:lbrodsky@ci.bloomington.mn.us).

To receive regular Public Health updates via e-mail, visit [www.ci.bloomington.mn.us](http://www.ci.bloomington.mn.us) and click **E-Subscribe.**

### WATCH FOR YELLOW STOP FOR SCHOOL BUSES

**W**ITH CHILDREN HEADED back to school soon, drivers are reminded to watch and stop for school bus stop-signal arm. The next time you're on the road, follow these regulations that were established to ensure the safety of children boarding and exiting school buses.

- When a school bus extends the stop-signal arm and the red lights are flashing, drivers of approaching vehicles must stop at least 20 feet away from the bus and remain stopped until the stop-signal arm retracts and the lights turn off.
- Traffic approaching from the opposite direction must stop, except when on a roadway with a dividing median or on a parallel road that is separated by a safety isle.
- If a driver fails to stop for a bus stop-signal arm, they are guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not less than \$300.
- If a child is in the roadway when the driver passes the bus, they are guilty of a gross misdemeanor.



### EARLY INTERVENTION FOR KIDS HELP CHILDREN OVERCOME DEVELOPMENTAL DELAYS

**C**ONCERNED ABOUT your child's development? Bloomington Public Health participates in South Hennepin's Interagency Early Learning and Development (SHIELD) program, which ensures that children from birth to three years old are screened for and provided with early childhood intervention services for developmental delays. Parents may request a screening at no cost and interpreters are available for non-English speaking families.

Bloomington Public Health Nurse Barbara Reilly said that meeting with parents to answer questions and offer support is an essential part of the program.

"The brains of very young children are extremely flexible," Reilly said. "With early intervention many children are able to overcome developmental delays before reaching school age."

SHIELD completed its 20th year of service in 2008. For more information, call Public Health at 952-563-8900.

### TARGET DEFENSE WITH PRACTICE AND CLASSES VISIT SOUTH METRO PUBLIC SAFETY TRAINING FACILITY



**T**HE SOUTH METRO Public Safety Training Facility, 7525 Braemar Boulevard, Edina, opens its 12-bay firing range to the public for target shooting on **Saturdays, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.** Targets and eye and ear protection are required and may be rented on-site.

In the fall, the facility also offers classes, including Introduction to Handguns and Firearms Safety and Kung Fu for Self Defense.

This facility provides a place for public safety personnel to practice and serves as a training ground for all. South Metro is a joint project of the cities of Bloomington, Eden Prairie and Edina and the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport Police Department. The facility provides police and fire training opportunities in a 28,000-square-foot, two-building campus.

For more information or to register for classes, visit [www.southmetrotraining.com](http://www.southmetrotraining.com) or call the facility at 952-653-0671.







SUSTAINABLE HOME IMPROVEMENT SERIES

THE BLOOMINGTON HOUSING and Redevelopment Authority’s next home improvement seminars will take place on **Thursdays, August 27 and September 17, 7 p.m.**, in the Civic Plaza Rehearsal Hall, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road. *Tax Incentives for Energy Conservation* on August 27 will feature energy-saving tips, including an overview of products ranging from windows to appliances that are eligible for tax credits. *Household Water Conservation* on September 17 will feature insights on how to conserve water and save money. For information, contact Tom Holman at 952-563-8941 or visit [www.ci.bloomington.mn.us](http://www.ci.bloomington.mn.us), keywords: HRA seminars.

A PLACE TO CALL HOME

AGING IN PLACE  
THE LUXURY OF ONE-LEVEL LIVING

WE ALL AGE. It’s a part of life. As we age, we need to take better care of ourselves. The same is true for the more than 12,000 ramblers in Bloomington, which have been around for almost 60 years. We need to update and care for them as they age.

Ramblers are great homes for families just starting out, but they also make excellent retirement dwellings because they’re one level. So, what can be done to update these homes for greater mobility as we age? Consider these 10 tips when looking to update your Rambler in time for retirement.

Sources: Bloomington HRA and ADA website.



- 1 Relocate the laundry room to the main floor.
- 2 Redesign with open floor plans to help occupants with mobility issues.
- 3 Make kitchen cabinets more accessible. Create Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant cabinets by installing higher toe kicks, lower countertops and roll-out shelving.
- 4 Remove carpeting or replace it with low-cut pile carpet in homes where a wheelchair will be used. Install a fixed or portable ramp.
- 5 Install grab bars throughout the home where needed.
- 6 Update bathrooms with a walk-in tub or a low- or no-threshold shower.
- 7 Replace old appliances with ADA compliant models that have easy-to-reach controls.
- 8 Install foot pedals, anti-scalding devices on faucets, and levers on doors and faucets.
- 9 Illuminate and lower or raise light switches for easier access.
- 10 Place no-slip grippers in baths and near kitchen and laundry room sinks.

For more information, contact Bloomington Housing and Redevelopment Authority Program Specialist Tom Holman at 952-563-8937.

EXERCISE YOUR RIGHTS! GET OUT AND VOTE!

GET OUT AND VOTE

PRIMARY ELECTION – SEPTEMBER 15

THERE WILL BE A PRIMARY ELECTION for candidates who filed for City Councilmember At Large. This is required when more than two candidates file for an office. The two candidates with the highest number of votes in the primary will advance to the General Election.

The offices of City Councilmember At Large, District I and District II, along with Bloomington School Board Members, will be on the General Election ballot on November 3.

SAMPLE BALLOT

Sample ballots will soon be available to view online, visit our website at [www.ci.bloomington.mn.us](http://www.ci.bloomington.mn.us), keyword: Voting.

VOTING ASSISTANCE

Tell the election judges if you need assistance at the polling places. All sites are accessible and have AutoMARK voter-assist terminals to help voters who have disabilities in marking the optical scan paper ballot.

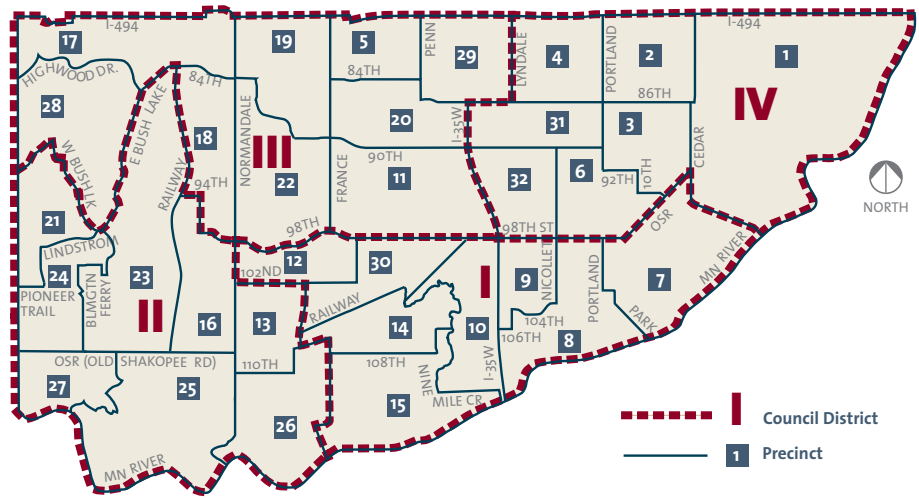
PRECINCTS 1 AND 5  
POLLING LOCATION CHANGES

Voters in Precincts 1 and 5 will be voting at different locations in 2009. Precinct 1 voters will vote at Evergreen Community Church, 2300 East 88th Street. Precinct 5 voters will return to their usual location at Southtown Baptist Church, 2600 West 82nd Street.



2009 BLOOMINGTON POLLING PLACES

POLLS ARE OPEN FROM 7 A.M. TO 8 P.M. ON ELECTION DAY.



Precinct/Polling location

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 | Evergreen Community Church<br>2300 East 88th Street            |
| 2 | Portland Avenue Methodist Church<br>8000 Portland Avenue South |
| 3 | Cedar Valley Church<br>8600 Bloomington Avenue                 |
| 4 | Unity South Church<br>7950 1st Avenue South                    |
| 5 | Southtown Baptist Church<br>2600 West 82nd Street              |
| 6 | Bloomington Lutheran Church<br>9350 Portland Avenue South      |
| 7 | Indian Mounds Elementary School<br>9801 - 11th Avenue South    |
| 8 | Riverside Reformed Church<br>10201 Nicollet Avenue South       |
| 9 | Nativity of Mary School<br>9901 East Bloomington Freeway       |

Precinct/Polling location

- |    |   |
|----|---|
| 10 | St. Luke’s Lutheran Church<br>1701 West Old Shakopee Road                     |
| 11 | Bloomington National Guard Armory<br>3300 West 98th Street                    |
| 12 | Crosspoint Church<br>9801 France Avenue South                                 |
| 13 | Hubert Olson Elementary School<br>4501 West 102nd Street                      |
| 14 | Mount Hope Lutheran Church<br>3601 West Old Shakopee Road                     |
| 15 | Westwood Elementary School<br>3701 West 108th Street                          |
| 16 | Normandale Hylands United Methodist Church<br>9920 Normandale Boulevard South |
| 17 | Peace Lutheran Church<br>8600 East Bush Lake Road                             |
| 18 | The Church of St. Edward’s<br>9401 Nesbitt Avenue South                       |

Precinct/Polling location

- |    |  |
|----|--|
| 19 | St. Stephen Lutheran Church<br>8400 France Avenue South                |
| 20 | Washburn Elementary School<br>8401 Xerxes Avenue South                 |
| 21 | Sunrise Park Shelter<br>9401 Bloomington Ferry Road                    |
| 22 | Normandale Hills Elementary School<br>9501 Toledo Avenue South         |
| 23 | Community of the Cross Lutheran Church<br>10701 Bloomington Ferry Road |
| 24 | Bloomington Lutheran School<br>10600 Bloomington Ferry Road            |
| 25 | Bethany Missionary Church<br>6900 Auto Club Road                       |
| 26 | Southwood Center<br>4901 West 112th Street                             |
| 27 | Bethany Missionary Gymnasium<br>6900 Auto Club Road                    |
| 28 | Bloomington Fire Station #6<br>8601 Lakeview Road                      |
| 29 | Christ the King Lutheran Church<br>8600 Fremont Avenue South           |
| 30 | Oak Grove Presbyterian Church<br>2200 West Old Shakopee Road           |
| 31 | St. Bonaventure Catholic Church<br>901 East 90th Street (Social Hall)  |
| 32 | Oxboro Evangelical Free Church<br>9431 Nicollet Avenue South           |

VOTING INFORMATION: 952-563-8729 – [WWW.BLOOMINGTON.MN.US](http://WWW.BLOOMINGTON.MN.US), KEYWORD: VOTING



CONTACT PARKS AND RECREATION AT 952-563-8877 FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THESE EVENTS.



## SUMMER FETE SPONSORS THANK YOU!

### CORPORATE SPONSORS

Bloomington Convention & Visitors Bureau  
Cedar Valley Church  
CenterPoint Energy, Inc.  
Clover Cleaners of Bloomington  
David Fong's Restaurant  
Feldmann Imports  
Friendship Village of Bloomington  
Gyropolis, Inc.  
Hansen, Jergenson, Nergaard & Co.  
Haskell's  
Hilton Minneapolis/Bloomington  
Mall of America  
Micron Molding, Inc.  
Mrs. Lali's Little Friends Montessori  
Nick N' Willy's Pizza  
Plekkenpol Builders, Inc.  
Raindance Sprinkler Systems  
Sheraton Bloomington  
Urban Communications  
Washburn McReavy Funeral Chapels  
Wentworth Properties  
Ziegler, Inc.

Corporate donations totaled \$4,700 and individuals donated nearly \$8,750! Thank you, sponsors!



## FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT

### A PLACE TO RUN FREE OFF-LEASH AREA BRINGS PEOPLE AND PETS TOGETHER

**T**HE 25-ACRE EXPANSE OF LAND on 111th Street between Nesbitt and Hampshire Avenues has rolling hills, trees, a shady picnic area and even a small pond. It also has dogs - lots and lots of dogs. That's because the land, a site for expansion of the water treatment plant, was designated as an off-leash dog exercise area in 2000.

According to Parks and Recreation Assistant Manager Greg Boatman, the off-leash area has become extremely popular, especially since the recent updates. As a result of public input, the City worked with residents to make improvements to the site, including adding a new fence and entrance, small dog area, updated signage and wood chips for a path.

"This was a joint effort between the dog owners and the City," Boatman said. "Users of the space really take care of it. They hold 'cleanup' days, rake out the wood chips for the path and provide water for all the dogs."

"It's really the dog owners who have formed a community to maintain the space and keep it a nice, healthy place for both humans and dogs," Boatman said.

In the future, if the property needs to be used for its original purpose to meet water treatment needs, the City will explore other locations for an off-leash dog area.



## BLOOMINGTON JAZZ FESTIVAL

### PUT SOME JAZZ IN YOUR LIFE

**O**NE OF THE PREMIER JAZZ EVENTS IN THE STATE, the Bloomington Jazz Festival will be held **Sunday, August 9, 2:30 - 7:30 p.m.**, at the Normandale Lake Bandshell, 84th Street and Chalet Road. **Vic Volare and the Volare Lounge Orchestra** opens the festival at 2:30 p.m. The **Christine Rosholt Quintet**, featuring some of the best jazz vocals around will take the stage at 3:50 p.m. Headlining the festival at 5:50 p.m. will be the big sounds of the **George Maurer Jazz Group**, a regular at such venues as the Dakota Jazz Club.

Free parking is available in the Normandale Tower Office ramps across 84th Street or to the east on Chalet Road. As always, this is a free event.

## ACTIVITIES FOR EVERYONE!

## AR&LE

**T**HE ADAPTIVE RECREATION & Learning Exchange (AR&LE) provides opportunities for individuals with disabilities living in Bloomington, Eden Prairie, Edina and Richfield to participate in recreational and educational programs that are specially designed to meet varied ability levels. For more information, call Parks and Recreation.

### ADULT AND YOUTH SPORTS

#### WOMEN'S AND CO-REC VOLLEYBALL

**L**EAGUES ARE HELD Monday through Thursday, beginning in October, and continuing through mid-December. Cost is \$240 resident and \$295 nonresident.

For more information, call Parks and Recreation.



#### SPORTS HALL OF FAME

**E**ACH YEAR, the Bloomington Athletic Association inducts one or more persons into the Sports Hall of Fame. The award honors men and women who have contributed their time and energy to the growth of amateur sports.

When: Thursday, October 8.

Where: Knights of Columbus Hall, 1114 W. 79th St.

For more information, call Dan Waller at 952-884-6675.



## CENTER FOR THE ARTS

**L**OCATED IN Bloomington Civic Plaza at the corner of West 98th Street and Old Shakopee Road, the Center for the Arts is a first-class facility housing seven arts organizations. For facility information, call 952-563-8889. For exhibit information and events, visit [www.bloomingtonartcenter.com](http://www.bloomingtonartcenter.com) and click on Exhibitions, or call 952-563-8567.

### EXHIBITIONS

|        |       |                  |
|--------|-------|------------------|
| Hours: | M - F | 8 a.m. - 10 p.m. |
|        | Sa    | 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  |
|        | Su    | 1 - 10 p.m.      |

### INEZ GREENBERG GALLERY

**Mapworks**, featuring unique views of significant Minnesota landmarks by artist Erik Sletten, runs **through September 11**. Artists' reception is August 7, 6 - 8 p.m.



*Stillwater* by Erik Sletten.

**Highlights and Shadows**, a juried exhibition of the Society of Minnesota Sculptors, runs **September 18 - October 16**. Artists' reception is September 18, 6 - 8 p.m.

### ATRIUM GALLERY

**Memories in Wood**, featuring inspiring works by artist Lyle Fitzgerald, runs **through September 18**.

**Ripples and Reflections: Views of the River**, featuring artists from the Minnesota Watercolor Society, runs **September 24 - November 13**. Artists' reception is October 8, 6 - 8 p.m.



*Down by the River* by Catherine Hearding.

### BLACK BOX THEATER

#### WATERS: A FUSION OF MUSIC, DANCE AND SPOKEN WORD

Presented by Bloomington Art Center, the event explores water as a powerful life source in its many forms. Featuring original works by Minnesota authors and composers, **Water: A Fusion of Music, Dance and Spoken Word**, runs **September 11 and 12, 7:30 p.m. and September 13, 2 p.m.** Tickets are \$18 adults; \$14 students and seniors.

### BLOOMINGTON CIVIC THEATRE

**Thoroughly Modern Millie**, featuring music director Anita Ruth and Emmy Award-winning choreographer Linda Talcott, runs **August 14 - September 13**.



BLOOMINGTON  
CENTER FOR THE ARTS



HAVE MERCER ON US!

A centennial celebration of Johnny Mercer music, featuring Arne Fogel and friends. **Saturday, September 26.**

MONROE CROSSING

The Midwest’s premier bluegrass and gospel quintet. **Sunday, September 27.**

BASIE’S LIVING LEGACY: THE  
SMALL GROUP

Small-group swing with Butch Miles, the Wolverines and Judy Donaghy. **Saturday, October 10.**

BASIE’S LIVING LEGACY:  
THE BIG BAND

Big band jazz with Butch Miles, the Wolverines and Judy Donaghy. **Sunday, October 11.**

CONNIE EVINGSON, THE SECRET  
OF CHRISTMAS

Vocalist Connie Evingson sparkles as she performs holiday and jazz standards. **Friday and Saturday, December 18 - 19.**

TRIBUTE TO BIRDLAND

Join vocalists Debbie Duncan, Lee Engele and Bruce Henry in a salute to Birdland Jazz Club. **Sunday, December 20.**

A TRIBUTE TO PATSY CLINE

See why audiences rave about Janie Miller’s Patsy Cline. **Sunday, January 10.**



ROUTE 3

Lift your spirits with, *On the Sunny Side of the Street: Uplifting Songs from the 1930s*. **Sunday, January 24.** **BB**

MARY LOUISE KNUTSON TRIO

The spotlight will be on melody at this concert, featuring Knutson’s award-winning originals and inspired arrangements. **Sunday, February 28.**

FLYING FOOT FORUM

A vibrant dance/theater company that fuses percussive dances with many forms of music, dance and theater. **Friday, April 2.**

ROBERT ROBINSON

The Pavarotti of gospel, Robert Robinson will sing spirituals, hymns, easy listening music and showstoppers. **Saturday, June 5.**

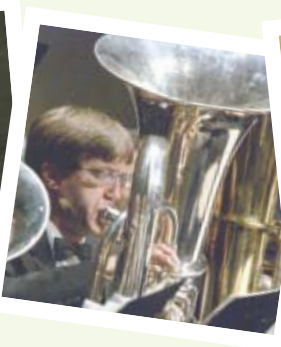
BARBARY COAST

This excellent Dixieland band will have your feet tappin’ from the very first beat. **Saturday, June 12.**

2009 - 2010  
PERFORMANCE SERIES

**T**HIS YEAR the Bloomington Center for the Arts Performance Series is more exciting than ever! The series includes excellent theater, band and chorale concerts, as well as jazz, bluegrass and dance. All performances are held in the wheelchair-accessible Schneider or Black Box Theaters, located in the Bloomington Center for the Arts at the corner of 98th Street and West Old Shakopee Road.

| DAY     | DATE             | TIME      | EVENT                              | ADULT | SENIOR/<br>STUDENT |
|---------|------------------|-----------|------------------------------------|-------|--------------------|
| 2009    |                  |           |                                    |       |                    |
| TH - SA | Sept 25 - Oct 24 | 7:30 p.m. | Wait Until Dark                    | \$18  | \$16               |
| SU      | Sept 27 Oct 25   | 2 p.m.    | Wait Until Dark                    | \$18  | \$16               |
| SA      | Sept 26          | 7:30 p.m. | Have Mercer on Us!                 | \$22  | \$19               |
| SU      | Sept 27          | 2 p.m.    | Monroe Crossing                    | \$25  | \$22               |
| SA      | Oct 10           | 7:30 p.m. | Basie’s Living Legacy: Small Group | \$25  |                    |
| SU      | Oct 11           | 2 p.m.    | Basie’s Living Legacy: Big Band    | \$25  |                    |
| TH - SA | Nov 20 - Dec 19  | 7:30 p.m. | A Tuna Christmas                   | \$18  | \$16               |
| SU      | Nov 22 - Dec20   | 2 p.m.    | A Tuna Christmas                   | \$18  | \$16               |
| SU      | Nov 22           | 4 p.m.    | Old Home Days                      | \$10  | \$8                |
| SA      | Dec 12           | 7:30 p.m. | Bach’s Christmas Oratorio          | \$14  | \$10               |
| SU      | Dec 13           | 3 p.m.    | Bach’s Christmas Oratorio          | \$14  | \$10               |
| FR - SA | Dec 18 - 19      | 7:30 p.m. | Connie Evingson                    | \$25  | \$22               |
| SU      | Dec 20           | 2 p.m.    | Tribute to Birdland                | \$22  | \$19               |
| 2010    |                  |           |                                    |       |                    |
| SU      | Jan 10           | 2 p.m.    | Tribute to Patsy Cline             | \$22  | \$19               |
| SU      | Jan 24           | 3 p.m.    | Route 3                            | \$18  | \$16               |
| SU      | Feb 28           | 2 p.m.    | Mary Louise Knutson Trio           | \$22  | \$19               |
| TH - SA | Mar 5 - Mar 27   | 7:30 p.m. | Master Class                       | \$18  | \$16               |
| SA - SU | Mar 6 - Mar 28   | 2 p.m.    | Master Class                       | \$18  | \$16               |
| SU      | Mar 7            | 4 p.m.    | Sounds from the Cinema             | \$10  | \$8                |
| FR      | Apr 2            | 7:30 p.m. | Flying Foot Forum                  | \$25  | \$22               |
| SA      | Apr 10           | 7:30 p.m. | Brahms’ Requiem                    | \$14  | \$10               |
| SU      | Apr 11           | 3 p.m.    | Brahms’ Requiem                    | \$14  | \$10               |
| TH - SA | May 7 - Jun 5    | 7:30 p.m. | Prisoner of Second Avenue          | \$18  | \$16               |
| SU      | May 9 - June 6   | 2 p.m.    | Prisoner of Second Avenue          | \$18  | \$16               |
| SU      | May 23           | 4 p.m.    | YouTuba!                           | \$10  | \$8                |
| SA      | Jun 5            | 7:30 p.m. | Robert Robinson                    | \$25  | \$22               |
| SA      | Jun 12           | 7:30 p.m. | Barbary Coast                      | \$25  | \$22               |



CREATE A SERIES AND  
SAVE UP TO 25%

**Order tickets for four or more events to create a performance series MultiPass and save \$2 per ticket.** This offer may be applied to adult and senior/student tickets, but may not be combined with other discounts.

THREE EASY WAYS TO ORDER TICKETS

- 1 By phone:** Call the Bloomington Box Office at 952-563-8575.
- 2 Online:** Visit [www.bloomingtoncivictheatre.org](http://www.bloomingtoncivictheatre.org), select “order tickets.”
- 3 In person:** Call 952-563-8575 for box office hours. Due to the seasonal nature of our organization, box office hours change according to demand.

All seats are reserved. Orders received less than seven days prior to the performance will be held for pick up at the box office. Programs and artists are subject to change. **All ticket sales are final. No refunds or exchanges allowed.**

Go to our website, click on *E-Subscribe* and sign up for Center for the Arts e-mail updates!



BLOOMINGTON CHORALE

MASS IN B MINOR BY J.S. BACH

Celebrate Christmas in glorious fashion with a program that also includes a selection of beloved carols and an audience sing-along. **Saturday and Sunday, December 12 - 13.**

BRAHMS’ REQUIEM

Brahms’ inspiring *The German Requiem*. **Saturday and Sunday, April 10 - 11.**



MEDALIST CONCERT BAND

OLD HOME DAYS

Settle in and make yourself at home while the band performs a selection of all-American band music. **Sunday, November 22.**

SOUNDS FROM THE CINEMA

Grab your popcorn and join the band in this revue of movie music. **Sunday, March 7.**

YOUTUBA!

Normally hidden in the back of the band, the tubas will be front and center for this concert. **Sunday, May 23.**



BLOOMINGTON CIVIC THEATRE  
GALLERY THEATRE  
COMPANY

WAIT UNTIL DARK

Enjoy this mystery thriller full of murder and mayhem. **Thursdays - Sundays, September 25 - October 25.** **BB**

A TUNA CHRISTMAS

Watch as two men play the entire cast of over twenty eccentric characters. **Thursdays - Sundays, November 20 - December 20.** **BB**

MASTER CLASS

Opera Diva Maria Callas is teaching a master class and you have a first-rate ticket to the event. **Thursdays - Sundays, March 5 - 28.** **BB**

THE PRISONER OF SECOND  
AVENUE

Suddenly unemployed, Mel has to cope with the summer heat wave and a prolonged garbage strike. **Thursdays - Sundays, May 7 - June 6.** **BB**

**BB** Indicates performance takes place in the Black Box Theater.